



the Forerunner

“Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.”

Hebrews 12:1

HUNTING RIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.huntingridgechurch.org

MARCH

2016

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The Kingdom of God is like...

What kind of kingdom are you hunting for? A place you can hide from the stress and turmoil you face on a daily basis? A place where you can be free to be yourself? A place that is quiet and peaceful? A place filled with angel citizens? Streets paved with gold? Unending music?



Jesus begins his ministry in the gospel of Mark announcing that the kingdom of God is near. This is good news if you were

waiting for God to show up and take charge. This is good news if you know what you are looking for. [This is good news if you were chafing under another earthly king.

I am not so sure all of Jesus' neighbors knew what they were looking for. Maybe they weren't even looking at all, but content to sit on the couch and watch 3 basketball games at one time. Jesus certainly had to spend a lot of time describing this kingdom. He used word pictures, stories, and his own actions to show the kingdom of God as unlike any kingdom we have ever seen. The kingdom of God is not a spot on the map or even somewhere out there in cyber space.



I understand the kingdom of God to be Jesus himself. The One who illustrated that God-way of acting in his very being-- in his words, his interactions, his prioritizing of tasks, his refusal to stick to the status quo. People followed him for miles. People saw him as their last hope for healing. People listened to him for hours. In this human being, they were looking directly at the kingdom of God, God's reign. Jesus was (and is)

God. Everywhere he went, he carried the kingdom of God.

I understand the kingdom of God to be lodged in my own heart (and yours too!). This kingdom is visible through my words, my interactions, my prioritizing of tasks, my refusal to stick with the status quo. When I am living as God calls me to live, the kingdom of God is there. When I see religious leaders from multiple faiths in one place, committed to praying for our city, the kingdom of God is there. When I see the outpouring of love and concern for a family in mourning, the kingdom of God is there. You can see it. It is not only near. It is here. Now. In lots and lots of places and faces, conversations and congregations. You can see it if you are hunting for it. And sometimes when you are not.

- Pastor Deborah

Join us for our Wednesday night prayer calls at 9pm.

641-715-3200
code:986261#

Please send any prayer requests to Jacquie Myles-Roach,

lamjedi69@gmail.com



March 6		Mark 12:28-44	Hunting for the Kingdom— by following the law?
March 13		Mark 13:1-8, 24-37	Hunting for the Kingdom— by keeping watch?
March 20	Palm Sunday	Mark 14: 3-9	Hunting for the Kingdom— through devotion?
March 24	Maundy Thursday	Mark 14:10-72	House Worship with Supper
March 25	Good Friday		Worship at Dickey Memorial Presbyterian Church 7:30 pm
March 27	Resurrection	Mark 16:1-8	The Kingdom is FOUND!

Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference June 21-24, 2016

Did you ever have the opportunity to be surrounded by 200 plus people your age who want to grow spiritually? To listen to and reflect on Scripture in a small group of your peers? To witness the beauty of God's creation in the green mountains?

Six middle school students and three adults will attend the Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference from June 21-24. Each family is contributing more than half of the total cost for each youth (1/3 of the total cost for adult advisors). Hunting Ridge has some funds in our annual budget for camps and conferences which will be used, but close to \$1000.00 more is needed in order to support our young people in this fantastic opportunity to: a) grow in their faith; 2) experience being away from family for a short time; c) be around other middle school students from many Presbyterian churches; d) be exposed to the leadership of faithful high school students. You will be hearing from these youth on upcoming Sundays. Look for the "thermometer" marking our progress toward raising \$1000.00 by June 15.



Please place any contribution you would like to make in the offering plate, marked: Middle School Conference. Let's support our young people as they continue forward on their journey of faith.



LENT

Our hunt for the kingdom continues into Holy Week...

...you can find a **glimpse** of it in the faces of your church family members around the table at one of our "house church" Maundy Thursday meals (March 24).

Look for the sign-up board in the library. Gather for worship and fellowship as we remember that last meal Jesus ate with his disciples.

...you can **participate** in it as we come together with members of Trinity Presbyterian and Dickey Memorial Presbyterian for worship on Good Friday (March 25) at 7:30 pm. The service of darkness calls to mind the depths of Jesus' pain suffered on our behalf.

...you can **celebrate** it on Resurrection Day (March 27) at 6:45 am Sunrise Service **OUTDOORS** (dress appropriately!) OR at 11 am in the sanctuary. Breakfast for all immediately following the Sunrise Service in the fellowship hall will be prepared by our deacons. What a fantastic day to bring a friend or family member!

...you can **contribute** to it on Easter Sunday with:

- **financial resources** given to One Great Hour of Sharing (offering divided between Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self Development of People program)
- a personal commitment to **care for God's creation** in a new way for the 50 days between Easter and Pentecost. Find a way to reduce your carbon footprint, refuse to use plastic bags, start recycling in your neighborhood, change your thermostat to save energy, begin collecting and using rainwater, plant a garden for your family or the community (can be done in containers on your porch, patio or deck), etc. Look for more ideas of actions you can take.



- 1- Amil Cousins
- 3- Cheyenne Somers
- 6- Joe Banks
- Brittany Pope
- 9- Althea Pusateri
- 10- Elizabeth Bebbs (102!)
- 20- Phillip C. Spain II
- 21- Matthew Higbee
- 28- Maggie Hernan
- 29- Maia Wilkins
- 31- Judy Rhoades



Come, strengthen your relationship with God.
Available each Tuesday afternoon

LENT ONLINE

Each Tuesday throughout Lent

Music, prayer, and reflection questions will be updated each week.

www.HuntingRidgeChurch.org

Our Kitchen is nearing completion!

Monday, February 29th through March 11th the kitchen will be CLOSED for floor re-finishing. While we apologize for any inconvenience, we look forward to the work being done soon.

We are grateful to the dedication of Dave Callahan and Nick Leonard for their commitment to this project.

Our Lenten Hunt Together

Hunting for a way to deepen your connection with Christ through Lent? We are continuing our “hunt for the kingdom of God” on Sunday mornings through Easter. Several members of Hunting Ridge are already active in each of the three small groups which are focusing on different prayer practices each week. You can still join a group: Conference call small group, 1pm, Thursdays 641-715-3580 and access code 388729# ; Lunch small group at Dickey Memorial , 12:30pm on Sundays; Supper small group in the home of Roseline Petro-Siewe, 7:00-8:30pm on Tuesdays. The hunt is on...



Prayer for a New Society

-Pax Christi, USA

Abiding God, loving renewer of the human spirit, Unfold our violent fists into peaceful hands:
 Stretch our sense of family to include our neighbors;
 Stretch our sense of neighbor to include our enemies
 Until our response to you finally respects and embraces all creation as precious sacraments in your presence.
 Amen.

Session Highlights

The National Council on Public History and the Society for History in the Federal Government present:

“ The Uprising in Focus: The image, Experience and History of Inequality in Baltimore”

This event will feature 5 local, expert panelists. Moderated by Elizabeth Nix of the University of Baltimore, this program will address issues of racial inequality in Baltimore and the web of protests movements that have materialized since last April.

The program will be at Ebenezer AME Church 20 W. Montgomery Street

Friday, March 18th 6-7:30 pm. It is FREE

- RE Suzanne Jewell reported on February 11th Presbytery Gathering which was held at Faith PC.
- The Session discussed plans for the February 28 meeting with Faith Place parents.
- A request from the League of Women Voters to hold a forum for candidates running for City Council from District 8 was approved.
- The Session approved a request for support from Yvonne Jauregui of Catonsville for the “Catonsville Loves Baltimore City– Prayer Walk “ on Good Friday.



40 WEST ALWAYS NEEDS FOOD!

PLEASE bring canned and dry goods ANY Sunday.

Don't forget to check the expiration dates on your donations.

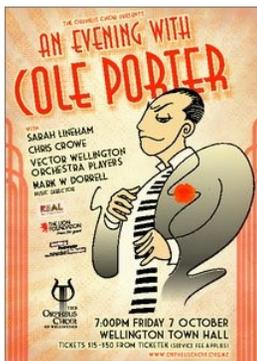
We are always collecting **BOX TOPS** for Thomas Jefferson Elementary Middle School.

Please remember to save and bring in your labels, so that we can help the school get much-needed supplies!



THE FORERUNNER

Happenings Around Town



An Evening of Cole Porter
 “Songs to Swoon By”
 The Woodbrook Players
 4th Annual Fundraiser
 Dessert buffet and Wine Bar.
 Tickets \$20 advanced sales.

Contact Chuck Knauf @ 410-945-7675 for details.

March 5th at 7:30pm & March 6th at 3pm

Chuck Knauf & Otis Stroupe performing!

Nine Years Under– Book Talk

On Sunday, March 20th at 7pm, join the book club meeting as they discuss Nine Years Under: Coming of Age in an

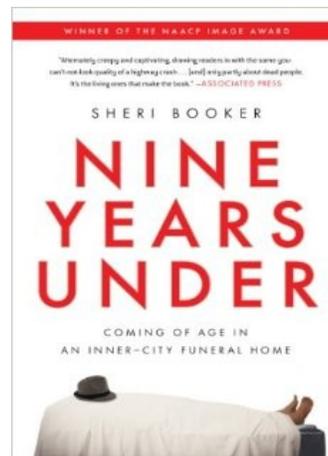
Inner-City Funeral Home

with author

Sheri J. Booker.

Invite a friend!

The author will bring books for sale.



We’re counting on YOU to make a difference!!!



To coffee farmers and their communities in different parts of the world.

To neighbors nearby who need assistance from our Emergency Assistance Fund.

Your purchase of coffee and tea, through our association with Equal Exchange, will make this possible.

Organic Tea (for 20 bags)—\$3.50

- Darjeeling
- Earl Grey
- Green Tea
- Rooibos (caffeine free)

Organic Drip Grind Coffee

12 oz bag—\$8.00

- Ethiopian
- Colombian
- French Roast
- Decaf (\$9.00 each)

Order forms are available in the Church Library.

Order deadline is Sunday, March 20th.

SOMETHING NEW!

A pastoral care response team has been created to provide consistent care for church members and their families in a time of need. (i.e., Death/ birth in the family, hospitalization, loss of job, extended illness, etc.) Currently made up of Ginny Callahan and Marjory Gelin, a team member will contact the family to check on needs such as visits, meals, transportation, etc. They will work with a list of church members who have agreed to be available to assist in these ways. If you are willing to be called upon to make and deliver a meal, to provide a ride and or visit in a home of in the hospital, please contact either or Ginny at 410-242-7968 or Marjory at 443-221-0482 . The pastoral care response team reports to the Deacons.

HRPC Weekly Calendar

Sundays	9:00 am	English/Spanish Class	Conference Room
	10:00 am	Adult Bible Study	Library
	11:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	1:00 pm	Baltimore Falam Baptist Church	Sanctuary
	4:00 pm	Free Community Yoga	Fellowship Hall
Wednesdays	7-10pm	Berea Church	Sanctuary
Thursdays	7:00	Imani Ringers	Choir Loft
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	8:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	Fellowship Hall
Saturdays	7-10pm	Berea Church	Sanctuary



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4640 Edmonson Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21229

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